



The *Heather Line*

Newsletter of Clan Lamont Society of Canada
(An Fraoch Linig Naidheachd – Litir de an Fine MacLaomainn Comum de Canada)



Clan Chief *Father Peter Noel Lamont*

May 2009

Vol. 12 No. 1

The Centennial of Flight in Canada celebrated!
A note from Father Bill
The Clan Lamont
An open invitation to attend the Gathering 2009 for Clan Lamont
Our newly redesigned web site



M/Gen (Ret'd) Ian Patrick, Clan Lamont Commissioner for Canada with "Silver Dart" replica pilot, Bjarni Tryggvason at Beddeck, Nova Scotia 23 February, 2009. The celebration of 100 years of flight in Canada

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The Heather Line is published bi-annually, spring and fall. Submissions are always welcome and should be sent to the Editor.

The heralding of spring brings visions of blooming flowers and soft, warm breezes and to me, it can't be soon enough! Various parts, almost on a rotating basis, of our great country were fell upon by vicious winter storms and weather much worse than previously experienced in the most recent years. As I write this, I am looking forward to April and May and can almost hear the birds singing in the bright sunshine.

Long before this edition of the Heather Line is mailed out, we should have our new website up and running. Gary Black deserves a lot of credit for initiating and maintaining our website for so many years but we wanted to go to a newer system of presenting the website as well as enabling members of the executive to directly contribute to its contents. As soon as Gary can transfer the password we will be able to give you the new site address and be back in business. So, to Gary, many thanks for your dedication to maintaining the website and we look forward to submissions from you in future for both the website and the Heather Line newsletter.

We attempted, for the first time, to organize a Rabbie Burns ceilidh on the afternoon of 25th January of this year to celebrate the Bard's 250th birthday. We decided to hold it in the afternoon to enable the younger folks to both attend and participate. It was arranged as a pot luck affair so that costs, including attendance, could be held to a minimum. Approximately 45 people were in attendance representing the Lamont, Henderson, Stuart/Stewart, Baird, Sutherland, Wallace, Bruce, and MacDonald Clans. We joined with Scots all over the world in a toast precisely at 5:00 pm local time to the Bard. Our thanks to those Clans that participated and joined in the get together!



The toast to the Bard!

We next participated in Tartan Day by attending a Clan Stewart Dinner held in St. Margaret's of Scotland Anglican Church on April 4th followed by the ceremony at the Legislative Building in Halifax on April 6th, hosted by the Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia.

The annual Clan Lamont Service of Remembrance held at the Fultz House Museum is scheduled for 11:30 am June 7th. The service commemorates those of our Clan that fell at Toward Castle at the hands of the Campbells and all who have served in Peace as well as War and paid the ultimate sacrifice. After the service a light lunch of soup and sandwiches will be served in the museum dining room for a small cost of \$5.00 per person, payable at the door. We hope to have our regular musical entertainers with us again this year!

The Halifax Highland Games will be held again this year on the Dartmouth Commons on Saturday, July 11th. We will be in attendance again this year with our tent and Clan information booth, etc. Please take time to attend and drop in to say hello!

We are experiencing some problems getting our new web site up and running, as some of you have noted and took time to send me an email. This should be resolved soon and a notice will be sent out letting you and others know how to contact us.

SOME HUMOUR!

In Scotland, after an exhaustive review of the research literature, here's the final word on nutrition and health:

1. Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Scots.
2. Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Scots.
3. Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Scots.
4. Italians drink excessive amounts of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Scots.
5. Germans drink beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than Scots

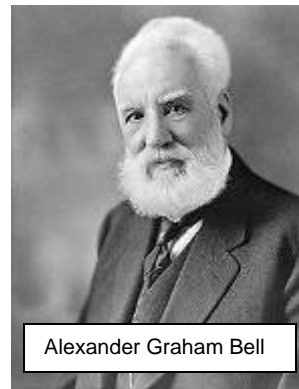
CONCLUSION: Eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what's killing us.

Canadian Centennial of Flight and Scottish Involvement

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the first powered, controlled, heavier-than-air flight in Canada, 23 February 1909, by John Alexander Douglas (JAD) McCurdy in the *Silver Dart* from a frozen lake near Baddeck, Nova Scotia. Skaters held up the wings and guided the aircraft for takeoff. Lifting only 10 meters into the air, the *Dart* flew less than one kilometer at about 60 kilometers per hour. *Silver Dart* (or Aerodrome #4) was a derivative of an early aircraft built by a Canadian/U.S. team, piloted by one of its designers, Douglas McCurdy.



The frame and structure of the *Silver Dart* were made of steel tube, bamboo, friction tape, wire and wood. Its engine, supplied by Glenn Curtiss, was a reliable V-8 that developed 35 hp at 1,000 rpm, and the propeller was carved from a solid block of wood. The aircraft had what is now called a canard or an "elevator in front" design. Like most aircraft of its day the *Silver Dart* had poor control characteristics; likewise, it had no brakes.



The *Silver Dart* was sponsored by Alexander Graham Bell and his wife, Mabel. The Aerial Experiment Association included Alexander Graham Bell, Casey Baldwin, J.A.D. Curtiss and Thomas Selfridge. The name "*Silver Dart*" was chosen by the silver colour of the Japanese balloon silk used to cover the (or Aerodrome #4) was a derivative of an early aircraft built by a team, one of its designers being Douglas McCurdy.

constructed by Association and Experiment McCurdy, Glenn McCurdy because wings. *Silver Dart* Canadian/U.S.

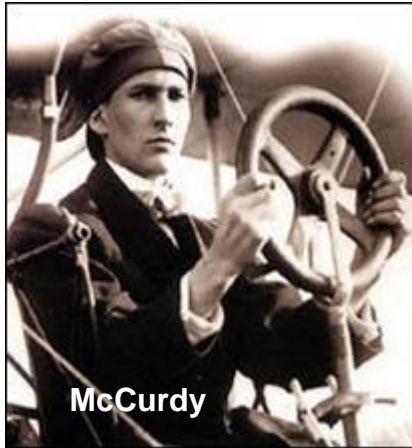
A small group of volunteers from the not-for-profit Aerial Experiment Association 2005 Inc. built a flying replica of the *Dart* to recreate the original flight on 23 February 2009 - again on the frozen surface of Baddeck Bay near Baddeck, Nova Scotia. However, due to weather conditions forecast for the 23rd, the centennial flight and fly-by occurred on 22 February, piloted by former Canadian astronaut Bjarni Tryggvason. This is a Canadian heritage project that forms the centerpiece of a series of events celebrating the centennial of flight in Canada.

Very few nations in the world owe more to flight than Canada. Aviation opened up the country and remains a lifeline to many remote and northern areas. Today, aerospace activity makes up a larger component of Canada's industrial base than any other nation.

The authors of this beginning, of course, were Scottish. Alexander Graham Bell was born 3 March 1847 in Edinburgh, Scotland, UK and died 2 August 1922 (aged 75) at his summer home, Beinn Bhreagh, in Nova Scotia, Canada. Although better known for his invention of the telephone, Bell also invented the hydrofoil and did much work in aeronautics. He was a supporter of aerospace engineering research through the Aerial Experiment Association (AEA), officially formed at Baddeck, Nova Scotia, in October 1907 at the suggestion of Mrs. Mabel Bell and with her financial support. The AEA was headed by Bell and members were four young men: American a motorcycle manufacturer, later awarded American Trophy for the first official one-the Western hemisphere and became a world-renowned airplane manufacturer; Thomas Selfridge, an official observer government and the only person in the believed aviation was the future; Frederick first Canadian and first British subject to in Hammondsport, New York; and J.A.D. Scottish origin); both Baldwin and McCurdy were engineering students at University of Toronto.



the founding Glenn H. Curtiss, the Scientific kilometre flight in Lieutenant from the U.S. army who W. Baldwin, the pilot a public flight McCurdy (of



John Alexander Douglas McCurdy (August 2, 1886 – June 25, 1961) was a Canadian aviation pioneer and Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia from 1947 to 1952. Born in Baddeck, Nova Scotia, he was known as "Douglas". He graduated from the University of Toronto in mechanical engineering in 1906 and joined Alexander Graham Bell's Aerial Experiment Association the following year.

After co-developer Frederick W. Baldwin first flew in 1908, on February 23, 1909, McCurdy became the first person to fly an airplane in Canada when he piloted the *Silver Dart* off the ice of Bras d'Or Lake. In 1910, he was the first Canadian to be issued a pilot's license and the following year he made the first flight from Florida to Cuba. At the beginning of the Second World War, he became Assistant Director General of Aircraft Production and remained in that position until he was appointed lieutenant-governor of Nova Scotia in 1947.

Douglas McCurdy established the first aviation school in Canada, and he died in 1961. He was inducted into Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame following its creation in 1973.

Submitted by M/Gen (Ret'd) Ian Patrick



The following welcome note from Rev. William Turner of Chelsea, Maine, USA. A member of long standing with Clan Lamont Society of Canada!
Thank you for your submission, Father Bill

Greetings at Christmas 2008!

Many of you were amused at the news a few years ago that a Papal Knighthood gave me the right to say Mass on a horse. Some thought I was not serious, so I include a picture to impress upon you the pomposity of such an occasion! In case you might believe I spent my whole year "horsing around" I can tell you that I finally finished Book 2 of my Father/Son series, and I wait for the publisher to give me the thumbs up for printing. I've also written articles for publication in the anthropology field. On the parish front, we received an impressive inheritance, and with those funds we have been able to replace and extend our parking lot, refurbish the church pews, replace the church floor and carpeting and purchase a house and property next door. Two Franciscan nuns now live in the house. It has been a while since parishioners have seen Sisters in habits or "real nuns" as I have been known to call them! A new bishop was appointed in March. He is six months my junior, and so far says he will not move me from this pastorate of 11 years. His age makes me realize I am no longer a young priest!

My travels this past year have included visits to relatives and friends in Florida, Kentucky, Ohio, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Colorado, and Canada. This coming year I plan to take my usual week of vacation in Florida in January, celebrate my 30th anniversary of priesthood here in Chelsea on Saturday, March 28, and make another try at a pilgrimage to Italy in November. Last year I was unable to find enough people to sign up for the trip. I wonder if the recent economy may prevent it again.

I hope all has been well with you during 2008 and know that I am always happy to hear your news! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and your family!

Fr. Bill

The Clan Lamont

James Irvine Robertson shines the spotlight on another of Scotland's great family names (Attributed to "The Scots Magazine", Issue 41, January, 2009)

The ancestral home of the Lamonts is the Cowal Peninsula in Argyllshire, and therein lies their problem. Three centuries of trying to resist Clan Campbell expansion culminated in one of the worst and least excusable massacres in Highland history. It was one of the factors that led to the 1st Marquis of Argyll, Chief of the Campbells, losing his head in 1661 at Edinburgh, but it was too late for the 200 or more Lamonts who perished on that fateful occasion. The Clan Lamont descends from Irish Royalty. It takes its name from Ladman, a descendant of Aodh O'Neill, King of the North of Ireland in the 11th century. The Chief then was Mac Laomainn mor Chomhail gu h-uile - Great MacLamont of all Cowal - and the Clan's history is decorated by some splendid anecdotes.

The Chief's seat was at Dunoon, but, soon after his accession to the throne in 1371, Robert II, the first Stewart monarch, made Sir Colin Campbell of Lochawe the Hereditary Keeper of Dunoon Castle. This marked the beginning of an increasingly bitter feud between the two clans, as the Lamonts tried to resist Campbell attempts to take over Cowal. In 1400, with the King at Rothesay Castle, three of his courtiers crossed to Cowal on a hunting trip and encountered three local damsels with dire results. As a result, the Lamonts caught up with the ravishers and killed them. An account of the incident was relayed to the King who, as punishment, passed some eight square miles of Lamont territory at Strath Echaig to the Campbells.

The Clan's next loss came 40 years later. The eldest son of Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochawe died in the Lowlands. Since it was midwinter and the Highland passes were blocked by snow, Sir Duncan received the permission of the Lamont Chief to bury him at the ancient Kirk of Kilmun of the Holy Loch. This was granted and, in 1442, Sir Duncan endowed the Kirk and petitioned the Pope to found a Collegiate Church - a mini cathedral with canons and supporting clergy. This he turned into the burial place of the Campbell chiefs, which it remains to this day. Thirty years later, the Campbells received charters of the land round Dunoon and turned the castle into their main seat. Nonetheless, in 1544, the Lamonts joined with the Campbells, unsuccessfully, to defend Dunoon and its castle against an English fleet which sailed up the Clyde Estuary in 1544 during Henry VIII's attempt to seize the infant Mary Queen of Scots and marry her to his heir.

A tradition from the early 17th century tells that the son of a Lamont Chief went hunting on the shores of Loch Awe with the heir of MacGregor of Glenstrae. At nightfall the two young men made their camp in a cave and a quarrel arose between them. Lamont drew his dirk and his companion fell mortally wounded. Pursued by MacGregor's retainers, the aggressor fled, and, losing his way in the dark, he saw a light and asked for shelter. He poured out his troubles to his host, unaware that he was at MacGregor's own house of Glenstrae. The old chief was stricken with grief when he heard the tale, and guessed it was his own son who had been slain. But the Highland laws of hospitality were inexorable. "Here, this night," he said, "you shall be safe"; and when the clansmen arrived, demanding vengeance, he protected young Lamont from their fury. Then, while it was still dark, he conducted the young man across the hills to Dunderave on Loch Fyne, and procured him a boat and oars. "Flee," he said, "for your life; in your own country we shall pursue you. Save yourself if you can!" Years afterwards an old man, hunted and desperate, came to Toward Castle gate and besought shelter. It was MacGregor of Glenstrae, stripped of his lands by the rapacious Campbells, and fleeing for his life. Lamont had not forgotten him, and he took him in, gave him a home for years, and when he died, buried him with all the honour due to his rank in the little graveyard about the chapel of St. Mary on the farm of Toward-an-Uilt, where his resting place was long pointed out.

In the bitter civil wars of the 17th century, the Lamonts initially were on the same side as Archibald, 1st Marquis of Argyll against the King. But the advent of the Marquis of Montrose and the Macdonalds rallying to the cause of King Charles, and the golden opportunity to join them in devastating Campbell lands, was too much of a temptation for Sir James Lamont, a graduate of Glasgow University, a Justice of the Peace and one-time member of the Scottish Parliament for Argyllshire, and he switched sides. When the King gave himself up to the Scots in April 1646, Sir James Lamont and his men went home. But the damage was done.

Cont'd on page 6

Campbell of Arkinglass led an army of his revenging clan into Cowal and laid siege to the Lamont castles of Toward and Ascog. Sir James Lamont surrendered himself and his followers under terms that granted indemnity to himself and his clan, but the terms were ignored. Lamont lands were brutally plundered, perhaps a hundred men, women and children killed. Some 36 of the Clan's gentry and up to 250 clansmen were taken to Dunoon. Some were summarily hanged; others were hacked and stabbed to death, some being buried while still alive. Sir James was taken to Inverary where the Marquis forced him to sign over his lands and jailed him until Oliver Cromwell took over the country in 1651. The massacre was one of the charges that cost the Marquis his head when tried for High Treason in 1661.

The Lamonts had their lands restored to them when Charles II took the throne and they kept out of the Jacobite Risings of 1715 and 1745. But, as with so many clans, economics swept away the majority of the clan landholders in the 19th century and the Lamonts scattered across the globe. The 29th Chief of Clan Lamont is Father Peter Noel Lamont of that ilk, a Parish Priest in a suburb of Sydney, Australia.

Clan Lamont Society of Canada redesigns its web site

The Clan Lamont Society of Canada has redesigned its web site at <http://www.clanlamont.ca>. The site includes new graphics, a new layout, and the ability to contact the officers of the society directly online. It also has online forms to join the society, volunteer for events, and purchase merchandise to help support our causes. As well, it lists coming events along with past activities and includes a photo gallery. Email your own photos of Clan Lamont activities and we'll include them in our gallery. You will also find links to other Scottish web sites around the world. Come visit our new site today.

BELOW IS AN OPEN INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF THE CANADIAN CLAN LAMONT SOCIETY TO THE GATHERING 2009 IN SCOTLAND:

Annual Gathering 2009

Clan Lamont Council

Invites Clan Members and their Guests

to the Annual Gathering

24th 25th 26th July

RSVP by 1st July to: Mary Lamb The Old Manse
Imerchaolain by Loch Striven Dunoon PA23 7UN, Scotland

Programme weekend 24th to 26th July 2009

Clan Lamont Society 114th Annual gathering at the Homecoming international gathering of the Clans Edinburgh



FRIDAY

The Royal Overseas League
100 Princes Street Edinburgh

12.00 Meet & greet lunch

19.00 Gala Dinner
Scottish entertainment celebrating the
250*anniversary of
Robert Burns

SUNDAY

Highland games in the park
Clan Lamont shop Farewell till next year

SATURDAY

Holyrood Park Edinburgh
Gathering of the Clans

Lamont hospitality tent in the
Clan village, meet the council

12.00 Fantastic Lamont show in main

Marguee, Clan villagr

15.00-17.00 Running Buffet in the
Royal Overseas League

19.00 Clan Parade Muster at
enclosures in the park,
Stewards will direct to Lamont
enclosure

19.30 Parade will leave for march to
castle where pageant will
enfold, expect to finish
about 23.30

Annual Gathering 2009

I/We will be attending the gathering and enclose payment £.....

Number of members ,.. Guests.....

I/We will not be attending the gathering.....

Name.....

Address.....

Clan Lamont Jewellery & Christmas Cards for sale



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Celtic Knot Brooch | 8. Smallest Celtic Cross Brooch |
| 2. Small Thistle Brooch | 9. Smallest Celtic Cross Key Chain |
| 3. Kelpie Brooch | 10. Smallest Celtic Cross with Neck Chain |
| 4. Small Celtic Cross Brooch | 11. Clan Lapel Pin |
| 5. Small Celtic Cross with Neck Chain | 12. Celtic Weave Brooch |
| 6. Medium Celtic Cross with Neck Chain | 13. Thistle Earrings, A-Clip-on, B-Post, C-D. Fishhook |
| 7. Large Celtic Cross with Neck Chain | 14. Clan Lamont License plate black on white, metal. |
| | 15. Scottish Theme Christmas Cards, set of 4, 3 sets per package complete with envelopes. |

All jewellery items sent by mail up to 5 pieces add \$2.00 for postage & handling

Contact T. Brown at (902) 865-9665 or 140 Zinck Ave. Lower Sackville, NS B4C 1W3 or e-mail thomasbarbbrown@eastlink.ca



No. 16
Celtic Weave Necklace and earring set
\$18.00 set
Necklace 1 1/4" x 1 1/4", earring 3/4" x 3/4"



No. 17
Celtic Weave Cross Necklace
\$10.00 each
Cross 7/8" wide x 1 1/4" long

HELPFUL THINGS!

1. Blood stains on clothes? Not to worry! Just pour a little hydrogen peroxide on a cloth and proceed to wipe off every drop of blood. Works every time!
2. Use vertical strokes when washing windows outside and horizontal for inside windows. This way you can tell which side has the streaks. Straight vinegar will get outside windows really clean. Don't wash windows on a sunny day. They will dry too quickly and will probably streak.
3. Spray a bit of perfume on the light bulb in any room to create a lovely light scent when the light is turned on.
4. Place half a sheet of fabric softener in dresser drawers and your clothes will smell freshly washed for weeks to come. You can also do this with towels and linen.
5. To unclog a drain. Clear the sink drain by dropping three Alka Seltzer tablets down the drain followed by a cup of Heinz White Vinegar. Wait about 5 minutes, then run the hot water to flush.
6. Wrap celery in aluminum foil when putting in the refrigerator and it will keep for weeks.

Clan Lamont Society Scottish Theme Christmas Cards

Featuring Lock Broom Cabin Church

Clan Lamont Society of Canada is pleased to present its collection of Scottish theme Christmas cards for the festive season. There are 12 cards to a package with 6 different styles each. The cost is just \$12.00 per package which includes the envelopes. This fund raising event allows you to support the society's various activities, as well as being able to enjoy sending handsomely printed cards to your friends and family.

Ordering information

To order your cards, send cheque or money order for \$12.00 per package plus \$3.00 shipping and handling to:

Clan Lamont Society of Canada (Christmas Cards)
140 Zinck Avenue
Lower Sackville, NS B4C 1W3


A sample of four of the six card types included in each package are shown below:



Loch Broom Log Church

a Nova Scotia Historic Site and replica of the first church built in Pictou County, now operated by the West River Presbyterian Church. The Log Church was so named because of the resemblance from its harbour approaches to Loch Broom in Invernesshire, Scotland, first settled by Alexander Cameron in or about 1773. The first service was held in the original church in 1787 by Dr. James MacGregor who came from Scotland in 1786.

*Photo by Kay Wilson
Scorsburn, Nova Scotia, 2004*



The Roof of Straw

*When round the winter's warm fireside
We meet with social joy,
The glance of love in every heart
Shall speak from every eye,
More lovely far such scenes of bliss
Than monarch ever saw,
Even angels might delight to dwell
Beneath my roof of straw.*

Henry Duncan, DD

Clan Lamont
Society of
Canada



ORDER FORM

Send Cheque or Money Order To:

485 Cobequid Road
Lower Sackville NS Canada B4C 3Y7
Telephone: 902 864-1994
Email: jean.watson2@ns.sympatico.ca

TO: PLEASE INDICATE YOUR NAME & SHIPPING ADDRESS ON THIS FORM

DATE

SHIP VIA [Ship Via Mail/Courier]

Select one (circle)

Courier shipment is collect

SHIP TO: [Only if different from purchaser above]

	1	CELTIC KNOT BROOCH	\$8.00	
	2	SMALL THISTLE BROOCH	5.50	
	3	KELPIE BROOCH	9.50	
	4	SMALL CELTIC CROSS BROOCH	5.50	
	5	SMALL CELTIC CROSS WITH NECK CHAIN	9.00	
	6	MEDIUM CELTIC CROSS WITH NECK CHAIN	10.00	
	7	LARGE CELTIC CROSS WITH NECK CHAIN	11.00	
	8	SMALLEST CELTIC CROSS BROOCH	7.00	
	9	SMALLEST CELTIC CROSS KEY CHAIN	5.50	
	10	SMALLEST CELTIC CROSS WITH NECK CHAIN	9.00	
	11	CLAN LAPEL PIN	5.00	
	12	CELTIC WEAVE BROOCH	8.00	
	13	EARRINGS, A-clip-on, B-post, C-post w/ball, D-fishhook	8.00	
	14	CLAN LAMONT LICENSE PLATE	17,00	
	15	CHRISTMAS CARDS, SET OF 4, 3 SETS PER PKG.	12.00	
	16	Celtic Weave Necklace & Earring set	18.00	
	17	Celtic Weave Cross Necklace	10.00	
			SUBTOTAL	
			SHIPPING	
1. Please add \$3.00 with payment for shipping: jewellery 1 – 4 items. cards, each Pkg. 2. For larger orders, submit the order without payment so that postage can be determined, prior to notification for payment & shipping. 3. License plates are \$4.00 each for shipping, add \$.50 for each additional plate. 4. Orders for postage to locations outside of Canada are as in number 2. 5. All items are in Canadian funds.				
SHIPPING COSTS WILL INCREASE WITH ANY POSTAGE INCREASES.				
			TOTAL	

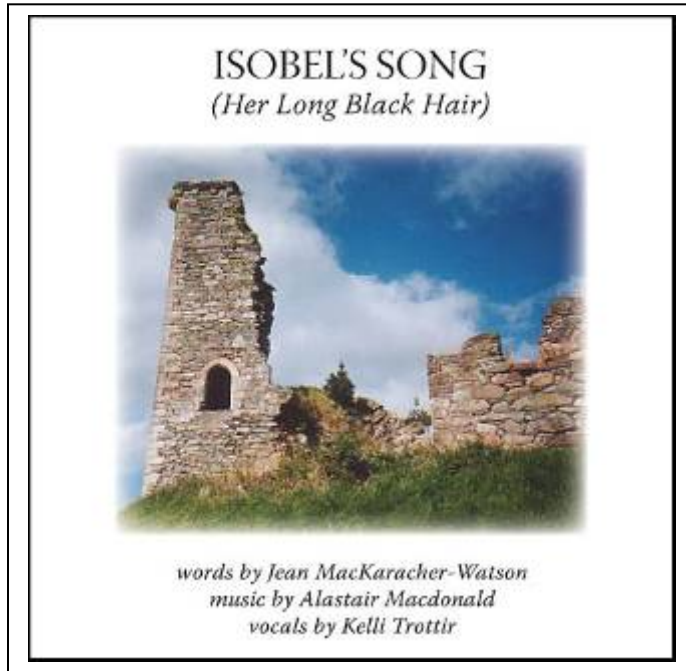
New Release Available

Sung by Kelli Trottier,
Ontario violinist, and judge

Length: 4mins. 22 secs.

Written by: Our Founding
President, Jean Watson

Musical score by Alastair
MacDonald of Dartmouth,
NS



QTY ITEM #

PRICE AMOUNT
to order

Isoble's Song is the a story in song of the attack on Toward Castle and Isobel's escape tells of her thirteen year struggle to free her brother, The Clan Chief, from the Campbell dungeons. A part of Clan Lamont history so many years ago.

History of Isobel's

This song was written to the memory of a brave Lamond girl who in June, 1649, walked past her enemy with a "parchment of safe passage" that had been given to her Clan Chief, (her brother) concealed in her long hair. Her friends and family were murdered before her eyes. She was left on a beach to starve. Along with other Highland Clans, and the Clan Campbell themselves, brought about the trial of the Clan Campbell Chief and the eventual execution of the Marquee of Argyll.

This is a fund raiser for our society.

Cost: \$5.00

Shipping: In Nova Scotia, \$2.00, rest of North America \$4.00,
and International, \$6.00.

To order send cheque or money order to: Clan Lamont Society of Canada, Sec./Tres.
485 Cobequid Road
Lower Sackville, NS B4C 3Y7, Canada